

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66610

DRAFTED BY: EB:NLPZDRAL:DA

APPROVED BY: EB:JLKATZ ACTING

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P 180131Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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PLEASE PASS ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRASILIA 1936 ACTION USIA SECSTATE INFO
CARACAS 15 MAR

QUOTE

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CARACAS FOR SECRETARY ROGERS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, BR, XM, OAS

SUBJECT: ROGERS PRESS CONFERENCE TRANSCRIPT

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS'
DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE BRASILIA INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT, ON MARCH 14:

ROGERS: LET ME SAY FIRST THAT IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO
BE BACK IN BRASILIA AGAIN. I HAVE BEEN HERE SEVERAL TIMES
IN THE PAST, BUT COMING BACK PARTICULARLY ON A MARVELOUS
DAY LIKE THIS IS ALWAYS A VERY SINCERE AND GREAT PLEASURE.
AS YOU KNOW, THE PURPOSE OF MY VISIT HERE, AS IN THE
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SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA I HAVE VISITED

AND WILL VISIT ON THIS TRIP, IS TO DISCUSS A PROPOSED TRIP OF SECRETARY KISSINGER TO LATIN AMERICA. AS YOU KNOW, THE SECRETARY IS PRESENTLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN RESPECT TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT. AND BECAUSE OF THE PECULIAR CONDITIONS OF "SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY" THERE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL HE RETURNS TO ANNOUNCE PRECISELY WHAT DATES HE WILL COME AND WHAT COUNTRIES HE WILL VISIT. BUT, AS I SAY, WE HOPE TO HAVE A SPECIFIC ANNOUNCEMENT, A FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT, ON BOTH THE COUNTRIES AND THE DATES WHEN HE RETURNS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST. WHILE I HAVE BEEN HERE IN BRASILIA I HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS BOTH WITH ITAMARATY AND WITH OTHER MINISTRIES, SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH WILL ARISE AT THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN MAY. AS ALWAYS, WHEN I MEET WITH BRAZILIANS, THESE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN MARKED WITH A GREAT CORDIALITY, FRIENDSHIP, AND MUTUAL RESPECT. MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT I HAVE TO LEAVE THIS EVENING, IN ORDER TO GET TO VENEZUELA TOMORROW MORNING. THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH OF A STATEMENT, BUT I WILL ANSWER ANY QUESTION I CAN.

Q.-COSTA MANSO, TV GLOBO NETWORK AND O GLOBO (RIO) NEWSPAPER: WILL THE UNITED STATES BE PREPARED TO APPLY DIFFERENT STANDARDS OF TREATMENT BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN CARRYING OUT TERMS OF THE NEW TRADE ACT, AND HAVE YOU DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION WITH BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES?

ROGERS: THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION IS YES. THE UNITED STATES WILL TAKE INTO PARTICULAR ACCOUNT THE SPECIAL INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS IT APPLIES AND IMPLEMENTS THE TRADE ACT. WE HAVE REAFFIRMED VERY RECENTLY, AT THE MEETING OF THE CIES (THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL), YESTERDAY, OUR DEDICATION TO THE TOKYO DECLARATION. AND MOREOVER WE WILL TAKE INTO PARTICULAR ACCOUNT THE INTERESTS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, MOST PARTICULARLY THOSE OF LATIN AMERICA, IN THE MULTI-NATIONAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS BEING CONDUCTED IN GENEVA. AND, FINALLY, I HAVE MENTIONED

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THIS FACT OF OUR POLICY TO A NUMBER OF OFFICIALS OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT WITH WHOM I TALKED TODAY.

Q. FEICHAS MARTINS, LATIN-REUTERS: MR. SECRETARY, I'D LIKE TO KNOW IF THE QUESTION OF LIFTING SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES.

ROGERS: NO, I THINK IT'S FAIR TO SAY THAT THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO, IS THE LATEST STATEMENT ON U.S. POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THIS ISSUE. AND, HERE, AS IN OTHER COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA, I HAVE REPEATED THAT CENTRAL STATEMENT OF THE HOUSTON SPEECH, BUT NOTHING ELSE.

Q.-DIRCEU BRIZOLA, GAZETA MERCANTIL:

I'D LIKE TO KNOW TO WHAT DEGREE THE INSISTENCE OF THE USG IN CARRYING OUT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO REACH AN IDEAL UNDERSTANDING REGARDING LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES' INTERESTS ON THE MULTILATERAL PLANE.

ROGERS: WELL, I THINK OUR POLICY IS TO DEAL BOTH BILATERALLY AND MULTILATERALLY ON ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH LATIN AMERICA. WE HAVE ESSENTIALLY IN THE TRADE ACT THE GENERAL POLICY WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL OF THE COUNTRIES IN A KIND OF MULTILATERAL SENSE. THE TRADE ACT IS AN EXAMPLE, ESSENTIALLY, OF A GENERAL POLICY ON ECONOMIC MATTERS, AND IN THAT SENSE I SUPPOSE IS A MULTILATERAL EFFORT. ON THE OTHER HAND WE -- WHEN THIS IS APPROPRIATE, WHEN WE HAVE SPECIAL, UNIQUE PROBLEMS WITH A PARTICULAR COUNTRY -- WE DEAL IN A BILATERAL WAY. BUT WE DO NOT HAVE A RIGID ATTITUDE ON MULTILATERAL AS OPPOSED TO BILATERAL OR BILATERAL AS OPPOSED TO MULTILATERAL. WE USE EITHER METHOD. IS THIS A RESPONSE TO YOUR QUESTION? NO?

Q. -BRAIZOLA: NO. WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT THERE EXISTS, AT LEAST IN MY OPINION, A CERTAIN PREFERENCE ON THE PART OF THE USG TO TREAT THESE MATTERS BILATERALLY. AND FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF SOME GOVERNMENTS IN LATIN AMERICAN UNCLASSIFIED

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THIS, IN A WAY, MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THE MULTILATERAL COMPOSITION OF LATIN AMERICAN INTERESTS TO OBTAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING WITH THE USG ITSELF. THE PREFERENCE (FOR BILATERAL APPROACHES), NOT THE ELIMINATION (OF MULTILATERAL DEALINGS), BECAUSE I KNOW THERE ARE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND IT'S ABOUT THIS PREFERENCE ...

ROGERS: WELL, I THINK THAT THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT WE HAVE INDICATED THAT WE'RE READY TO DEAL IN A MULTILATERAL FORUM; WE WERE QUITE READY TO GO TO BUENOS AIRES, FOR EXAMPLE, AND IT WAS CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL WHICH DETERMINED THAT THAT MEETING WOULD NOT GO FOWARD. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO MEET WITH LATIN AMERICA IN MULTILATERAL FORUMS, SUCH AS THE IA-ECOSOC (THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL), THE CIES MEETING,

WHICH IS IN WASHINGTON RIGHT NOW. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO MEET WITH LATIN AMERICA IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN MAY. SO, I DON'T THINK YOU CAN REALLY SAY THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A PREFERENTIAL POLICY FOR BILATERAL DEALINGS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS.

Q. DAVID VIDAL (THE ASSOCIATED PRESS):

I HAVE ONE BRIEF QUESTION. I'D LIKE TO CONTINUE THE THEME ON CUBA, WHICH HE (FEICHAS MARTINS) RAISED. IF I'M CORRECT, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER DID NOT ANSWER DIRECTLY THE QUESTION OF WHAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD DO IF THE OAS DECIDED TO LIFT SANCTIONS WITH RELATION TO CUBA. AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK IF BRAZIL HAS ASKED THIS QUESTION OF THE UNITED STATES, AND WHAT WAS THE ANSWER.

ROGERS: IN FACT, SECRETARY KISSINGER DID DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA, IN THE EVENT THAT THE SANCTIONS ARE LIMITED. WHAT HE SAID WAS THAT WHAT WE WILL DO, WILL THEN DEPEND ON A NUMBER OF CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING CUBA'S FOREIGN POLICY AT THAT TIME.

Q. DERCY PRADO (JORNAL DO BRASIL):

DURING THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATES TO BRAZIL, IS IT FORESEEN THAT A NEW TRADE AGREEMENT WOULD BE SIGNED BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL?

ROGERS: NO, I DON'T THINK THERE ARE ANY PLANS TO SIGN A NEW TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRAZIL AND THE UNITED
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STATES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE060020
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB:NLPAZDRAL:DA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750093-0756
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750340/aaaabjoi.tel
Line Count: 203
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROGERS PRESS CONFERENCE TRANSCRIPT FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS'
TAGS: OTRA, BR, XM, OAS
To: EC BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006